

# THE OVERSEAS PRESS BULLETIN

WEEKLY PUBLICATION OF THE OVERSEAS PRESS CLUB OF AMERICA

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May 17, 1969

## THE "RUMP" MOVES IN



MARCH ON THE CHAIR



THE "MIKE" IS TAKEN



GAVEL TORN FROM PRESIDENT



THE "TAKEOVER"

(Photos by Lauro Boccioletti)

## "NIGHT OF THE LONG KNIVES . . ."

OPC Rebs Disrupt Annual Meeting; Shout Down Elected Officers, Rough Up Photographer, Seize 'Mike', Grab Transcript, Set 'Rump' Session.

By JOSEPH HARROW

A disruptive, noisy percentage of less than 50 Active members present shouted down efforts of OPC Officers to report on Club finances, refused to listen to accounts of progress made and forced adjournment of the April 30 Annual Membership Meeting after four hours of near riot.

Dissidents systematically heckled officers, manhandled a photographer and threatened opponents of their views with violence.

Only solid things accomplished during brief interludes of calm were a report by the Elections Committee on the vote for new Governors plus an analysis (despite interruptions) of key financial statistics as of February, 1969 (See page 6).

Also, it was publicly disclosed that the Club was in substantial rent arrears to its landlord and auxiliary, the Correspondents Fund, a tax-exempt charitable organization whose money was originally raised for it by OPC.

*Club President Hal Lehrman and Fund President Bruno Shaw later last week set up a joint committee to lunch together and explore means of settlement.*

### Pleas Ignored

Bent on blaming the present Administration for a financial mess rooted in Club history, the rebels rejected pleas of Lehrman, Vice President Frank Gervasi and Treasurer James Sheldon to remain orderly and proceed with the business at hand.

The Chair accepted a procedural motion to sweep aside the regular agenda (discussion of reports by Officers and Committee Chairmen) to concentrate instead on the Club's fiscal troubles and ways of resolving them.

The motion passed by uproar, but implementation was effectively blocked by hours of hooting, dubious points of "order" and "personal privilege," also menacing advances on the Chair by out-sized members — one of whom, with out-

stretched arm, kept declaiming "Sieg Heil, Sieg Heil." Lehrman finally had no choice but to adjourn the meeting, whereupon he, Gervasi, Sheldon and others withdrew.

### Gavel Taken

As they were leaving, the gavel was wrenched from the President's hands and the taped transcript illegally commandeered over protests of its custodian, Club Engineer John Hunter. Although by this time there was no quorum — less than the 35 required Actives in good standing being present — a "rump" session was held to wild acclaim, with first one and then another rebel taking charge of the proceedings.

Some who had joined the opposition in what they had hoped would be an orderly airing of differences seemed

(See page 2)



Member is shown here lunging at photographer as lensman snaps his picture.



## 'NIGHT' (From page 1)

stunned by their colleagues' conduct. Personalities, not issues, had apparently become the order of business. As one member put it, "if I ever saw a night of the long knives, this was it."

The opposition's immediately declared objective was to compel Lehrman to yield to an "impartial" Chairman, "elected" by the dissidents, who would then permit passage of a resolution censuring the President. This, according to shouts directed at the President, would then require him to "do the decent thing" and abandon his office.

### Real Objective

But the real, long-range objective, as indicated by published reports in a local PR news sheet close to the rebel group and from other sources, was to cut the Club adrift, capture it and remake it in their own image.

Growing suspicion that the staged uproar was part of a move to wreck OPC and reconstitute it into a "NY Communications Club" was fortified by an "account" of the Annual Membership Meeting in the aforesaid sheet (addressed to PR and Advertising circles) which described the meeting as if the Officers had caused the disorder and encouraged the rowdyism.

In similar vein this publication has printed inaccurate reports concerning OPC over the past few months.

The PR sheet recommended an entirely "new direction" for the Club toward "meeting the needs of resident members. It is *their* approval of Club affairs and leadership that is important — not that of members who are far away . . . what is needed is a NY Press Club or a NY Communications Club," it stressed. It concluded that "local press, and possibly PR men, ought to have full membership rights. After all, PR men have the business background needed to run a Club of the size that New York City requires."

### Photographer Hit

The evening was marked by an attack on photographer Lauro Boccioletti who was nearly pushed through a window and then thrown to the floor amid a clatter of cutlery and broken dishes by a member who warned him, as "a lousy fink" not to take pictures. Boccioletti's wife was also attacked. (See letters, page 6).

The entire debacle was the first in the history of the Club wherein shocked, veteran newsmen witnessed the spectacle of reporters ostensibly concerned with freedom of speech and assembly violating those very concepts at OPC. To those who had covered repression through the world there was a sensation of déjà vu.

But one happy note: the bar did a roaring business and, at least, it was all well around there!



THE GRAB FOR THE "MIKE"

## NEW YORK SCENE

Edited by BEULAH HARRIS

### Family Dynasties and Politics

**Thurs., May 22 — Book Night, "The Political Influence of International Families," featuring Jennie: The Life of Lady Randolph Churchill, by Ralph Martin, and The Bouviers, by John Davis. Cocktails 6:30 p.m., dinner 7:30 p.m. \$6.**

The Churchills and the Bouviers will offer the nucleus for a discussion of the political influence of international families during this Book Night event next Thursday evening. Both John Davis, member of the Bouvier family, and Ralph Martin, one of the OPC's most prolific writers, will appear to discuss their currently popular books — *The Bouviers* (Farrar Straus & Giroux) and *Jennie: The Life of Lady Randolph Churchill* (Prentice-Hall).

In both cases, the authors have been extolled by reviewers for the frank and revealing portraits they have presented of their subjects. Martin credits most of Prime Minister Churchill's character to his maternal ancestry. He indicated that Jennie propelled Winston toward the prime ministry by wile, guile and open campaigning. Davis takes the Bouvier family from 1815, when Michel Bouvier left his home in southern France to emigrate to America, to his illustrious cousin Jackie's marriage to Onassis (because she was lonely, he believes). The book, according to reviewers, is an irresistible collection of reminiscences of the years Jackie spent in the White House, as well as a lively account of her relationship with her father, known as Black Jack Bouvier.

\* \* \*

### Edward Teller: What He Thinks About ABM

**Wed., May 28 — Edward R. Murrow World Affairs Forum, with Dr. Edward Teller, atomic scientist. Cocktails 6:30 p.m., dinner 7:30. \$6.**



Dr. Teller

Teller, famed nuclear physicist and vigorous advocate of a strong defense posture for the US, will speak at this May 28 Club dinner on "The Perils of the ABM Decision." At Senate hearings in March, when Sen. J. W. Fulbright challenged Defense Secretary Melvin R. Laird to name any independent scientists supporting the Safeguard missile defense system, Teller's name was one of those mentioned by Laird. Generally referred to as "the father of the H-bomb," Teller has impressive credentials in the nuclear field. He helped persuade Einstein to write the 1939 letter convincing President Roosevelt that the US should build an atomic bomb. Articulate and controversial, Teller has advocated establishing on the moon a research station powered by a nuclear reactor and exploding an H-bomb on the moon to see what it is made of. Boyan Choukanoff is producer of this Murrow Forum.





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# ANNIVERSARY REPORT

By WAMBLY BALD

The Club's 30th anniversary cocktail party at the Hotel Algonquin was an intimate occasion, limited to about 60 very early members who had been invited by special delivery letter.

In short, old-timers' eve.

As explained later by *Burnet Hershey*, an early president and chief instigator of the event: "It was just a nostalgic idea we thought up and we decided upon the Algonquin because that's where the Club really got under way back in April, 1939."

The occasion on April 29 was so august, memories and all, that the hotel didn't charge the celebrants anything. In fact, managing director Andrew Anspach was on hand in the Stratford Suite to welcome the aging men and women as they tottered through the door.

## 30 Candles

Also on hand was a huge glittering birthday cake, with 30 candles awaiting the blowing-out ceremony that was to climax everything. "We didn't want the hotel to go to too much trouble, so we brought along our own cake," Hershey said. "Funny thing, though, we never got around to eating it."

All the assembled seniorish citizens, some not looking a day over 55, showed signs of enjoying the evening in a mild fashion. They were well behaved, no one got drunk, there was no bewailing the old squeeze of shrinking years, no one sang Auld Lang Syne. Also there were no charges and counter-charges. At no point did president *Hal Lehrman* start shouting: "Sit down because you're out of order!"

I say this with authority since I was there. It was an evening of perfect decorum.

During *Wambly Bald's* Paris years with the Trib he contributed to the New Review, Transition,

the Boulevardier and Vanity Fair, which really places him as an "old-timer." His first New York jobs were with the New York American as

March of Events page editor and with the Journal-American as general assignment reporter. He was on the New York Post as feature writer for nine years before turning to freelancing.



Wambly



Past Presidents and President of OPC at 30th Anniversary Celebration (l. to r.): Will Yolen, Hal Lehrman, Founder-Pres. Burnet Hershey, Victor Riesel, Founder-Pres. Eugene Lyons. (Photos, Walter Huyam — Photo-Media)

And some among those present looked so young!

There was wry and spry *Madeline Ross* who presumably could still pass as a youngish Duchess of Windsor. And even still dance the tango if coaxed. There was snowy-thatched *Mark Henehan* who looked as if he could still run nearly 100 yards without falling down. And there was snowy-mustached *Will Yolen*, renowned for his I-fly-kites hobby, who appeared capable of crouching down on one knee and playing marbles as well. What keeps them so young? I intend to think about that some day.

## Absence Felt

I personally felt the absence of *Jules Frantz* who was home ill. Back around the early 30s, when Jules was managing editor of The Paris Tribune, he cheerfully gave me my first newspaper job and soon after encouraged me to get started on my Left Bank column which ran five years. And it was Jules who subsequently, back here in New York, got me to join the Club of which he was an authentic founding father.

Anyway, around 7 o'clock came gather-around-the-cake time, with some lamentations heard about the Club's having swelled to explosive size.

At the Algonquin in 1939, it was recalled, only 16 correspondents were present, \$40 in dues was collected, and four bottles of whisky were consumed. That came after a number of little meetings in bars around town, so no one was quite sure just when and how the Club really got started.

The party's profoundest moment came when *Eugene Lyons* moderately lamented: "Our idea was to limit ourselves to 100 newspapermen who had something in common and knew one another by name. But with our drives for membership we have become a kind of General Motors of Clubdom, and now with over 3000 members it seems that we have gone into the real estate business, the catering business and monkey business. Had I known this was going to happen I would have throttled the Club in its infancy!"

## Considine Considers

*Bob Considine's* lament was even more moderate.

"The other day," Bob said, "I walked into the Club and didn't recognize one single person at the bar. And what's more — not one single person recognized me."

Then came discussion as to who the founding fathers really were, with quite a number of claims being made in the room. *Whit Burnett* said he wasn't quite sure that he was among the earliest group, so he'd settle for being called a founding step-father. "Every year we hear from more and more so-called founding fathers," Yolen complained. "We'll soon have enough to fill Madison Square Garden!"

And then up spake *Lehrman*, holding up one finger for attention. "I think it should be made clear here and now," he said, "that I am the youngest surviving founding father of this Club. I was just a pimply-faced kid when we got organized in 1939." That got some applause.

One thing for sure: not one celebrant claimed to be a founding mother. Actually the old girls were getting hungry and didn't hesitate saying so. "Let's get back to the Club," they urged, and the men agreed. No one wanted to miss any part of the gourmet Danish Night dinner.

But what about the cake?

"We'll take it along with us," *Lehrman* said. "Let's not cut it now and spoil our appetites."

Another point was considered. Since there would be lots of pastry at the Danish Night dinner, why not just take it back and donate it the following day to the office girls and let them worry about extra calories? This resolution was unanimously accepted.

Perhaps honorable mention should go to *Hershey*, who carried the neatly rewrapped cartwheel of cake, cradled in his arms, all the way from the Algonquin on 44th Street. When later he was asked why he hadn't hailed a taxi he gave a reply that belongs somewhere among the Club's legends: "Try and get a taxi around Times Square when you need one in a hurry!"



## von Braun Talk Tops Southern Tour

By MARY HORNADAY

An exclusive briefing by NASA's Dr. Wernher von Braun was the highlight of an OPC "red carpet" tour to Florida and Alabama, April 27 to May 6, arranged by Joe Peters, chairman of state-side events.

The visit of OPC members to two of the nation's three space centers included a preview of preparations for the May 18 Apollo 10 shot that will precede the first US lunar landing in July.

Also interviewed was Maj. Gen. Charles W. Eifler, head of the USA Missile Command, Redstone Arsenal, Ala.

At Huntsville, the OPC group viewed the intricate mechanism of the Saturn V, — the Apollo launch rocket, saw technical work being done on Safeguard, the controversial ABM rocket, and on NASA's embryonic space station, due to orbit in 1971.

## ST. BRIDE'S RECEIVES CORRESPONDENT PLAQUE

LONDON — A memorial plaque to American journalists who have died in line of duty was dedicated in London April 17 at the Church of St. Bride, Fleet Street.

The plaque was sponsored by the OPC, who presented the plaque and a contribution to the church from funds collected from members. The project was suggested and handled, with the permission of the OPC Board of Governors, by Madeline D. Ross.

London-based OPCers were present at St. Bride's when the wall plaque was unveiled by Admiral W.F.A. Wendt, Commander-in-chief of US Naval Forces in Europe. Also participating in the dedication were St. Bride's rector, the Rev. Dewi Morgan; USN Fleet Chaplain Captain George A. Wright; and Russell F. Anderson, senior vice president — international, McGraw-Hill Publications. Anderson helped plan the ceremonies, sent invitations to resident OPCers and others, published programs for the service and other amenities.

St. Bride's, known as the Parish Church of the Press, received a confirming writ in 1375 from Edward III. It occupies a site which reflects 2,000 years of history — Roman ruins lie underneath the building.

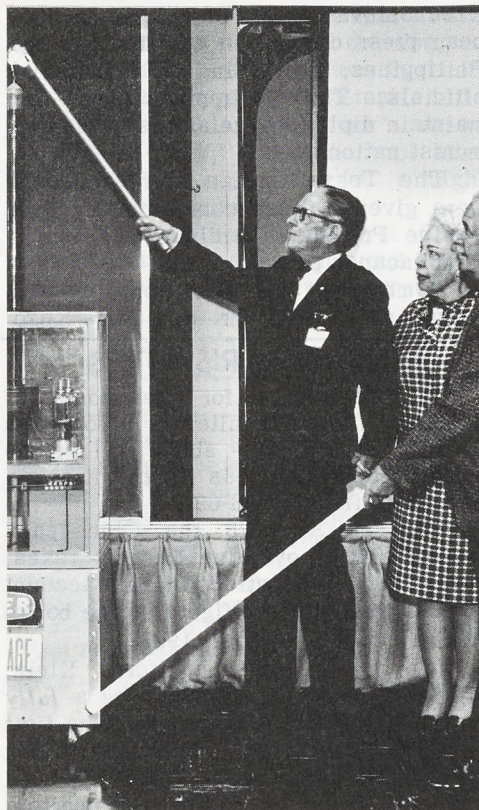
Miss Ross instigated the OPC plaque project after a visit to the church in July, 1968, when she noted memorial plaques honoring European journalists. She received the approval and cooperation of both the OPC Board and the Churchwardens of St. Bride's, through the interest and cooperation of Rev. Morgan.

At the Kennedy Space Center, the group was briefed on manned and unmanned missiles by Gordon Harris, chief information officer. They toured "shot" sites, including that of the upcoming Apollo 10 and 11. A visit also was made to TVA's Brown's Ferry project, destined to become the world's largest nuclear power plant.

An OPC member who helped especially to make the trip a success was Reavis O'Neal, of the Redstone Arsenal. O'Neal, who is recuperating from an illness, was not able to meet the group personally. Entertainment he had arranged included a cocktail party given by the Huntsville Press Club and a dinner by the Huntsville Industrial Expansion Committee. Members of the group were made honorary citizens of Huntsville by Mayor Joe Davis.

Those who made the trip in addition to Peters were: Rhea Clyman, Mary Hornaday, Wendell Sether and Mrs. Sether, Steve Steinberg, Isabella Taves, James R. Young and Mrs. Young, Paula LeCler and her husband Walter Wood.

A commemorative plaque presented to Peters by Col. Paul B. Schuppener, commandant of the US Missile & Munitions Center, Redstone Arsenal, has been hung in the Club lobby.



ELECTRIFYING EXPERIENCE: Jimmy Young, Mary Hornaday and Joe Peters light fluorescent light with electricity passing through their bodies at Redstone Arsenal, Huntsville, Ala., during the recent "Red Carpet" trip for OPC members.

## World-Wide Ticker

### SOME ADVICE FROM FAR EAST PRESSMEN

By AL KAFF

TOKYO — No. 1 Shimbun, monthly newspaper of the Foreign Correspondents Club of Japan, handed out some gratuitous advice to the Overseas Press Club in its April issue.

The editor-in-chief, John Roderick of AP, wrote in his monthly editorial:

"The Overseas Press Club (OPC) in New York, to which some of us belong, is going through a period of economic storm . . . Having lost \$110,000 in some not very clear fashion, it is setting about with some alacrity to collect back dues, introduce chit books, eliminate cash transactions, draw up monthly statements and tighten up on credit for its

(See page 6)

### Czech Newsman Assailed For Accepting OPC Prize

Former Czechoslovak newsman Karel Kral's acceptance of the OPC President's Award a few weeks ago has brought him an attack by the official Czech Communist party paper, Rude Pravo.

The publication called him a traitor. Kral, who accepted the award in behalf of Czech newsmen who defied the invading Russians last year, was the Czechoslovak News Agency correspondent in New York until last year, when he was recalled after an appearance at the OPC to discuss the invasion.

The paper derisively noted that "a willing recipient" was found for the OPC award. "He is Dr. Karel Kral, former correspondent for the Czechoslovak News Agency (C.T.K.) at the United Nations, who quite voluntarily and without any serious or non-serious reasons decided for the lot of an emigrant.

"On September 9 last year, Karel Kral was recalled from New York, the order to be effective immediately, for gross violation of working discipline. He refused to return and chose himself the lot of a traitor. Political adventurism has never been unfamiliar to him . . . For all that, he can accept compliments and maybe even awards from the American hands which feed him."

Kral had announced his intention to remain in the US last January during a meeting of the UN Correspondents Association. He said then that the sanctions against him were imposed not by his employer but at the direction of the occupying force.



## Letters

### PHOTOGRAPHER ATTACKED

After serving on the election committee, I remained for the annual meeting. I called my husband, Lauro Boccioletti, Dean of the N.Y. Institute of Photography, to bring his cameras to make a photographic record of the meeting. Lauro contributed his services to the Bulletin many times in the past. No one had been assigned to photograph



Boccioletti

the meeting for Bulletin readers. The pictures were taken for the use of the Club and for no commercial purpose whatsoever. My husband was insulted, threatened, and finally physically assaulted while taking these pictures. I was told that I would be "kicked out of the club for this." My husband is an experienced newspaper photographer (Toronto Telegram, including 15 years on the police beat throughout Ontario, etc.) and I have researched books in Hungary, East Germany, and Czechoslovakia, as well as in the Amazon jungle. We are both familiar with personal dangers on assignment, but we are absolutely appalled that such violence should be directed by newsmen toward a photographer covering a meeting in a club dedicated to freedom of the press the world over.

Margaret Kreig  
(Mrs. Lauro Boccioletti)

## THE OVERSEAS PRESS BULLETIN

Chairman: Joseph Harrow

Managing Editor: Sibby Christensen

Editorial Board: Mark Henehan, Eugene Du Bois.

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Classified column advertising (not for commercial use); 50¢ per 40-space line. Must be received in written form by noon Monday of publication week with advance payment. (No phone orders.) Commercial and display rates on request.

Editorial deadlines: Noon Mondays of publication week for column items, noon Tuesdays of publication week for all other material.

## Ticker (From page 5)

3,000 members . . . And finally, it has decided to computerize its accounts.

"While extending our sympathies to the OPC, we cannot refrain from reminding our own members that the reason we are in the black is that we applied financial controls long ago . . . The handsomest thing we could do for OPC would be to loan them our treasurer, Shin Higashi . . . with the proviso they send him back.

"As editors of a Club newspaper (and OPC members), we view with alarm its decision to curtail the weekly OPC Bulletin . . . For correspondents overseas, it is virtually the only link with the New York-based organization . . . Membership wouldn't mean much without it . . . Apropos, we are in receipt of the Hong Kong club's first publication, also called Bulletin and extend it our congratulations and best wishes."

(The Foreign Correspondents Club of Japan has used chit books for years, extends credit only to members who post a cash deposit, permits no cash transactions and put all of its accounts into a bank computer system earlier this year.)

Eighteen wives and members of the Tokyo Press Club flew to Manila April 30 for five days of sightseeing in the first in a planned series of overseas trips.

The group included four correspondents from the Soviet Union and one from Czechoslovakia, the largest East European press delegation ever to visit the Philippines, according to Philippine officials. The Philippines does not maintain diplomatic relations with communist nations.

The Tokyo foreign correspondents were given a press conference by Philippine President Ferdinand E. Marcos in Malacanang palace.

Members of the tour group: Ascol Biryukov, Pravda; Mr. and Mrs. Kozo

### TREASURER'S NOTES

(1). Operations for the month of February, 1969, resulted in a total net loss of \$5,055.66 — about half of the average operating loss for the first six months of fiscal 1968-69.

(2). On April 28 the Club paid \$47,226.07 in over-due Federal taxes, reducing our obligations on this account to less than half the figure on the books at the end of December, 1968.

(3). The Club's auditors, Klein, Hinds & Finke, are conducting a fully certified audit of all accounts (the first in OPC history) as of April 30, 1969. Members owing money to the Club will each receive a letter from the auditors asking for a verification. Members are asked to reply as soon as possible, so that the audit may be promptly completed. Results will be published in the Bulletin as soon as available.

Kaito, The Reader's Digest; Thomas Ross, Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung; Victor Zatspein, Tass; Evgeniy Ruskov, Komsomolskaya Pravda; Mrs. Betty Morris, Army Times; Mr. and Mrs. Henry Hartzenbusch, AP.

Mr. and Mrs. Max Desfor, AP; Mr. and Mrs. Seiji Yamaoka, Washington Post; Toshio Yoshimura, McGraw-Hill; Johan Almqvist, Swedish Broadcasting; Ivo Stolic, Czechoslovakian News Agency; James P. Colligan, Nat'l Catholic News Service, and Vladimir Khlynov, Trud.

Visitors to Tokyo in April included Mr. and Mrs. Frederick S. Beebe, board chairman of Newsweek. A reception was held for them by Mr. and Mrs. Norman W. Williams and Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Krisher of the Newsweek staff in Japan.

## 'Haircut' Debuts

By HERBERT KUPFERBERG

One of the largest musical audiences in the history of the OPC jammed the tenth floor lounge on May 2 to hear the world premiere performance of Sam Morgenstern's new one-act opera "Haircut", based on the Ring Lardner story, by the Metropolitan Opera Studio.

This is the second Morgenstern opera to be heard at the Club this year, his comedy "The Big Black Box" having been done earlier. "Haircut," which has a libretto by Jan Henry, is a graphic yet lyrical musical depiction of a small-town tragedy involving a young spinster, a handsome doctor, a feeble-minded youth, and a gang of town rowdies. It shows Morgenstern as a master of vocal ensemble writing, with individual characters marked out with distinctive melodic lines, yet blending into an attractive and forceful musical structure. The music makes the small-town figures come alive and often gives them a piquant flavor. Morgenstern has captured spirit of the folksiness which Lardner used as the surface coating of his basically brutal story. Even though one of the leading characters, the doctor, is somewhat blandly characterized in his music, "Haircut" is an opera abounding in musical interest and dramatic impact.

It was brilliantly performed by a cast of young singers who knew not only how to sing, but how to heighten the drama with an inflection or a gesture. The singers, all members of the Met Studio, were Carolyn Heafner, soprano; Janet Winburn, mezzo; Ben Bryant and Gary Glaze, tenors; Mark Howard and Matthew Murray, baritones; Josef Gustern and Terrence Hawkins, basses. Morgenstern, who received an ovation at the end, presided at the piano and set the scenes verbally. John Gutman, director of the Met Studio, spoke before the performance, and Jack Frummer, Club impressario, presided.





AIR OF COPENHAGEN: Danish folk-rock singer Gitte Kragh entertains in the OPC Grill following her performance upstairs at the Danish Regional Dinner (Photo by Lisa Hoffman).

## A Little Bit of Denmark at the OPC

By MARK HENEHAN

"The Danish Vikings did not seek conquest like the other Norse adventurers. What prompted them to set sail for strange lands was a search for new recipes — they had everything else they wanted at home!"

This opening quip by Axel Dessau, director, Danish National Travel office, set the stage for the April 29 Danish Regional Dinner at the Club.

An overflow crowd indicated full agreement that "Denmark has everything," as guests ate hearty Danish food, drank flavorful Danish beer and aquavit, enjoyed inimitable Danish humor and heard folk music with a fairy tale flavor. Decor in the dining room fit the mood, with Danish flags (the oldest flag in the world) gracing each table and a huge map of Denmark, flanked by wooden statues of Tivoli guards, predominating the scene.

DeWitt Davidson, Regional Dinner

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Committee chairman, emceed, introducing guest speakers who easily could find careers as stand-up comedians. Good humor was paramount in brief remarks by G.F.K. Harhoff, Danish Consul General; Marc Connelly, now virtually a commuter to Denmark; Mimi Sheraton, author of "The Seducers Cookbook" and well-known food editor; Marion Gough, feature editor, and Dessau.

Lively Danish music was provided by accomplished accordionist Walter Ericsson during the entire evening, and a series of folk-rock numbers by youthful and attractive Gitte Kragh, billed on the program as "Denmark's answer to Petula Clark," drew the rapt attention and heavy applause of a highly appreciative audience.

All guests received Royal Copenhagen ashtrays and a numerous Poster Contest and door prizes were presented.

## Classified

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## NEW YORK SCENE

(From page 1)

Wed., June 11 — Edward R. Murrow World Affairs Forum, with Dr. Robert Jastrow, director of the Goddard Institute of Space Studies. "Apollo to the Moon." Cocktails 6:30, dinner 7:30 p.m. \$6.

Thurs., June 19 — Edward R. Murrow Affairs Forum, with French Consul Jean Beliard. "What Happens After de Gaulle?" Cocktails 6:30 p.m., dinner 7:30 p.m. \$6.

Wed., June 25 — Homecoming Forum, with Russell Warren Howe, US correspondent specializing in Africa coverage. Cocktails 6:30 p.m., dinner 7:30 p.m. \$6.

Every Monday through Friday, the Club's new International Dining Room on the second floor will feature culinary specialties from around the world.

All reservations not cancelled 24 hours in advance will be charged to members' accounts.

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## THE ROAD AHEAD

The Festival of Sound at the April 30 Membership Meeting had several material effects, none useful to the Club.

— One of the local reporters brought in by the celebrants produced a story long on color and short on accuracy. It made OPC look pretty silly.

— Public disclosure of OPC difficulties with its landlord (and offspring), the Correspondents Fund, touched off a minor run by some creditors. The sudden demand was met with cash. The run was stopped.

— Reports of wrestling and punching at the Meeting (true) scared away luncheon customers in the week following. Business dropped 20%.

— Another temporary dampener on luncheon receipts: an inspired rumor that the ice cream purveyor, his bill not paid (untrue), had pulled out his refrigeration equipment (untrue). Visions of dubious meat and fish disheartened a few regular patrons.

Courage has since been fully restored by the abundant evidence of continued good eating.

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Obviously, these diversions did not assist the Club's financial recovery. Nevertheless, recovery is being made, steadily. On all fronts — controls, economies, collection of money due, stimulation of new income — progress is tangible. One indicator of this is the payment last month, to the U.S. Treasury, on taxes more than a year overdue, of \$47,226.07.

### Plot and Counterplot?

Since the April 30 fracas, a number of Active members have been heard from. They suspect that the insurgent operation was part of a scheme to make the Club's recovery and survival as an overseas press club impossible, after which the pieces would be picked up by the "schemers" and glued together as something else.

The feeling among the Actives reporting in seems to be: Throw the bums out... The biggest mistake we ever made was letting them in... Let's amend the Constitution. Let's give eligibility back only to genuine overseas correspondents and former correspondents, the way it used to be... Who needs a big club? What we want is a good one — the kind we had before these characters came aboard...

I don't agree. The "characters" are producing loud noise, but they represent few people. Only a few are listening and only because hollering is a kind of comfort when money troubles break out.

Everybody else wants just three

things: to restore the Club's viability; to preserve the Club's special overseas quality, and to maintain OPC as the press center in N.Y. for major public forums and pronouncements.

This goes for the great mass of the Associate membership too, as well as for the Actives. Anyone who thinks the Club can survive *without* the overseas stamp, as a glorified bar and grill, is just not with it.

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**We have a lot of things going for us: three decades of history; national and international prestige; a high-grade world-wide membership 3,000 strong; a loyal staff of employees who have put their future on the line with ours; a solid equity in a valuable property; a reasoned program for recovery.**

### Things To Do

Right now, there are things every member can do, each in his own manner.

If you haven't paid your assessment yet (\$50,000), pay it. If your dues or house account is delinquent (\$25,000) pay it. If you can give the Club an extra cash gift, give it. Patronize Club facilities — and pay with cash when possible. Attend Club programs. Get your organizations to use Club facilities. If you have the contacts, help the new Sponsors Committee obtain financial support from the media and other communications groups for a Club which performs valuable professional and community service — *all outgo and no income*, like Awards, Bulletin, Freedom of the Press, for instance.

It would also help if you would write me and say how you feel about all this and what else you think might be done.

Hal Lehrman  
President

## Tony Chapelle Dies

Anthony Chapelle, veteran photographer of two world wars, died May 7 of a heart ailment at New York's Lenox Hill Hospital. He was 69.

He was the former husband and photography teacher of Dickey Chapelle, the well-known photographer-correspondent (and OPC governor) who was killed covering the Viet Nam war



Chapelle

in 1965. They were divorced in 1956.

During World War II, they both covered the war — he as a Navy photographer and she on a magazine assignment. Following the war, they worked as a photo-writing team in Europe, the Near East and Asia, covering the work of Point Four. They also served in both East and West Europe in a similar capacity for the American Friends Service Committee.

Chapelle had served as a Navy photographer during World War I as well. His work also included aerial, fashion and news photography, appearing in a number of leading publications. These included National Geographic, Saturday Evening Post, and others.

Chapelle, who retired several years ago, suffered heart trouble and had lived with the help of an electric cardiac pacemaker during the past ten years. He was believed to have been one of the first heart patients surviving with the device outside a hospital.

Surviving are his sixth wife, Kay; three children from previous marriages, Mrs. Edward Habib, Anthony and Ronald Chapelle; two brothers, a sister, and a number of grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

## OPC LAW ON MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

The powers and purposes of Membership Meetings are limited by OPC law to:

- hearing reports by Officers and Committee Chairmen;
- discussing such reports and asking questions concerning them;
- debating proposed Constitutional amendments;
- voting to break a tie, if any exists, in world-wide election returns.

No other vote on questions of substance at a Membership Meeting is Constitutionally authorized. The Constitution gives the decision-making power over matters affecting the Club as a

whole exclusively to the Board of Governors, consisting of the elected Officers, the Governors and Past Presidents.

Article V, Section One states: "The government and management of the Club shall be confined to a Board of Governors..."

Note: The quorum of 35 Active members in good standing required for a Membership Meeting is only 1% of the Club's total membership. The Club is a world-wide organization, but the Membership Meetings are attended only by members in or near N.Y. City. Further, a quorum of 35 is only 5% of the Active membership resident in the N.Y. area.